CSAC 2022 Spring Virtual Meeting Public Comment

Daniela Tagtachian
Doctoral Student, Sociology
The Graduate Center, CUNY
365 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Hello, my name is Daniela Tagtachian and I am a community lawyer that focuses on poverty law. I am also currently a Sociology PhD student at the Graduate Center, CUNY. I use census data regularly and I am concerned with the impacts of Differential Privacy on the accuracy of data that is used to develop and propose policy interventions to address the needs of marginalized communities. **I am making this public comment because I would like to propose that, at a minimum, data that is aggregated at the county and state level be <u>excluded</u> from the Privacy-loss Budget.** For example, providing total population counts for states or counties does not risk the privacy of individual residents. As such, this count should not be manipulated but it should also not affect whether other data gets manipulated. In short, if you're going to use differential privacy, it should only affect data that can materially risk an individual's privacy. Thus, **only data that can materially risk an individual's privacy should be included in the Privacy-loss Budget**. Thank you for your time and for the great work you are all doing.

All the best,
Daniela